GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1085
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2016
Railway Network in Naxal Infested Areas
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand the railway network in the naxal infested areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the expansion of railway network in these areas;

(d) whether the Government provides special assistance to the States for expansion of railway network in the naxal infested areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c): Based on demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives & Railway's own requirement, the proposals for new line projects are considered. They are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands which also covers connectivity to tourist, historical, pilgrimage, backward & extremist infested areas. However, Indian Railways have taken up 20 new lines, 2 Gauge Conversion and 23 Doubling projects covering a length of 5396 km and at a cost of `54, 263 Crores passing through Left Wing Extremist affected areas in various States. Out of these 45 projects, 15 doubling/3rd line projects have been proposed in Railway Budget 2015-16.

(d) & (e): At present there is no proposal with the Government to provide any special assistance to the States for expansion of railway network in the naxal infested areas. However, many of these projects have been taken up on socio-economic considerations despite negative rate of return.

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